



## Between the Boulevards

June 2017

Published by the Boulevard Manor Civic Association for the residents of Boulevard Manor, including Spy Hill, Stone Ridge and Park View

### BMCA Officer and Board Member Elections at June Meeting

The Nominating Committee appointed by the BMCA membership presents the following candidates for the June 12 election. The nominees for election to a two-year term (2017-2019) as officers of BMCA are:

President	Christopher Tighe	5 <sup>th</sup> St. N.
Vice President	Claudia Maloney	8th Rd. N.
Treasurer	Rob Pilot	3 <sup>rd</sup> St. N.

BMCA Secretary Tony Ermovick will continue in the second year of his term. Nominees for new two-year (2017-2019) terms on the BMCA Board of Directors are:

Rob Piester	3 <sup>rd</sup> St. N.
Shubha Shivapurkar	Liberty St.
Paul Svercl	3 <sup>rd</sup> St. N.
Jon Van Lare	N. Manchester St.

In addition, outgoing president Phil Klingelhofer will serve a term as a Board member, as indicated in the BMCA Bylaws. The following will continue to serve on the Board, completing the second year of their terms in June 2019:

John Bloom	N. Manchester St.
Sandy Horwitt	5 <sup>th</sup> Rd. N.
Matt Smith	3 <sup>rd</sup> St. N.

BMCA is grateful for the service of outgoing board members Sandra Spear, Chuck Norton, Molly Flynn Stevens, John Eckrote, and Josh Handler.

#### Join the BMCA Listserv

In the Boulevard Manor group at Yahoogroups.com, neighbors share information on community news, events, and issues. To join, simply send an e-mail to [blvdmanor-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:blvdmanor-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). You can select how often you want the group emails delivered. If you do not post messages, your email address will remain anonymous.

### Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting

Monday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

- Arlington County Board member Christian Dorsey and Rev. Jon Smoot, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia, will discuss new developments in efforts to preserve and reuse the Reeves farm house.
- Paul Gilbert, Executive Director of NOVA Parks, will present conceptual designs for updates to Upton Hill Regional Park.
- Arlington County Energy Manager John Morrill will join a panel discussion on solar energy (see article).
- Annual elections will be held for BMCA officers and for open BMCA Board positions.

For more information, contact BMCA President Phil Klingelhofer at [president@boulevardmanor.org](mailto:president@boulevardmanor.org).

### July 4 Neighborhood Celebration

All neighbors are invited to **the Independence Day ice cream social** on **Tuesday, July 4**, beginning at 7:30pm at the Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St. A neighborhood tradition since 2002, the event is co-sponsored by BMCA and the Church. Free ice cream, toppings, and water are provided. Neighbors may choose to bring a lawn chair or blanket, soft drinks, snacks, and mosquito repellent. Please do not bring fireworks or alcoholic beverages to the event.

Many neighbors stay after the ice cream social to watch the fireworks above the National Mall, which typically begin around 9:15pm. If you would like to help at the event, please contact Lee Dioso at [LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org](mailto:LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org).

### Learn About Going Solar at June BMCA Meeting

The June 12 BMCA meeting will include a panel discussion on solar energy and other options for reducing home energy costs. Arlington County Energy Manager John Morrill will join a panel of neighbors who have already installed solar energy equipment. The panel will share their experiences and answer questions.

The discussion is expected to include other ways to improve energy efficiency. Neighbors on the panel have experience encompassing insulation improvements, geothermal heat pumps, electric vehicles, and other energy conservation measures.

The panel invites neighbors to consider joining a solar co-op that is signing up members now in Arlington; information is available at [www.vasun.org/greater-arlington](http://www.vasun.org/greater-arlington). Arlington County's energy conservation website is [www.environment.arlingtonva.us/energy](http://www.environment.arlingtonva.us/energy).

### Bluemont Park Neighborhood Conservation Project Update

Work to remove non-native invasive plants and to restore woodland habitat in Bluemont Park are continuing. The next round of invasive plant treatment will take place in early June. The invasive plant contractor (IPC) personnel will walk lines through the forested areas with backpack sprayers, targeting ground-cover invasive plants. Treated plants will be painted blue to indicate to IPC and the public that herbicide has been applied. Any bushes and trees that were missed in previous treatments will be cut down with power equipment and their stumps will be treated with a concentrated herbicide and blue indicator dye. Treated plants should show signs of sickness in 2-4 days and will die in 2-4 weeks.

Signage to delineate the re-naturalized areas from the more active areas is being prepared and should be in place later this summer.

Engineering design is being completed for a sidewalk to provide a safe pedestrian entrance to the park from the N. Manchester St. near 4<sup>th</sup> St. N. Construction is scheduled in the fall.

### Wilson Boulevard Plans

On April 6, several BMCA members attended the open house on the proposed enhancements to Wilson Boulevard. Several planned changes are intended to address two of BMCA's top priorities, improving pedestrian safety and improving the ability for vehicles to enter and exit our neighborhood. According to the project website, our other priority concern – cut-through traffic – "will be further investigated with the long-term

study and with I-66 HOT lanes project to identify appropriate restrictions for residential streets." The planned changes are scheduled to be implemented this spring. Additional information is available online at [projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/wilson-boulevard-improvements/](http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/wilson-boulevard-improvements/)

### Being a Good Neighbor to the Parks

The Boulevard Manor neighborhood benefits significantly from the neighboring parks: Bluemont Park, Powhatan Springs Park, and Upton Hill Regional Park. For much of our community, the parks serve as a buffer between residences and surrounding business districts and traffic. The parks afford us proximity to the nature and recreation, minutes from our doors.

It is important for us to abide by park regulations and model appropriate behavior. Neighbors are reminded not to encroach on park land, to restrain pets on leashes and to clean up after them, to pick up our trash before it can be blown or washed into the parks and streams, to prevent vines and other plants on our properties from growing onto parkland, and never to dump anything in parks, even vegetative matter. If you see park rules being broken, please report the matter to the park rangers at (703) 525-0168.

### Arlington Blvd. Shoulder Restoration and Beautification Project

As the photo below illustrates, the Route 50 shoulder is greener and more attractive. Late last year, volunteers planted several smaller saplings provided by the Tree Stewards' fall tree giveaway (information at [treestewards.org](http://treestewards.org)). In early April, funds allocated by BMCA enabled the planting of seven new, larger Cedar trees.

Additional improvements depend on the County's plans for refurbishing the Manchester and Rt. 50 intersection. BMCA volunteers may get a more trees next fall from Tree Stewards to fill more gaps in the screen. Additional options include purchasing native species flowering bushes for the currently overgrown area and/or starting a wildflower patch.



### Powhatan Springs Park Forest Restoration Project

Over the past few months, BMCA volunteers joined the Arlington Master Naturalists (ARMN) and members of the skateboarding community to continue clearing trash and invasives species from the forest in Powhatan Springs Park. Recent efforts have focused on garlic mustard. ARMN is continuing to coordinate with the county to leverage resources for more invasive treatment and for replanting native species plants.

NEXT EVENT: Volunteers of all ages are invited to the next scheduled work event on Sunday, June 18, from 3:00 to 5:00pm. An ARMN naturalist will lead children in looking for wildlife, share their knowledge of the park's natural resources, and provide information about ongoing rehabilitation work. Accompanying adults are required to stay on site while their children

are exploring. Planned work includes clearing brush that provides a habitat for the invasives and removing the persistent multiflora rose and the bush honeysuckle. Volunteers will examine and support the plantings completed in October 2015.

### Membership Update

The 2017 BMCA membership drive was the most successful yet. We currently have 266 members representing 147 households, significantly up from 217 members in 2015. Thank you to everyone who renewed their membership or joined for the first time. Membership dues and donations are redirected to improve the experience of living in Boulevard Manor. To become a member, please visit the BMCA website, [www.boulevardmanor.org](http://www.boulevardmanor.org), or use the mail-in form below.

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### Boulevard Manor Civic Association Membership Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E Mail Address(es) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not add my e-mail address to the BMCA listserv

Please contact me about volunteering for activities related to:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation and Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Reevesland  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality and Social Events   | <input type="checkbox"/> Projects under the Neighborhood Conservation Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Emergency Preparedness                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter and Web Site         | <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as a BMCA Officer or Board Member         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks                           |  |

Membership Category	Cost
Individual Members	\$10
Couples (Two Adult Members)	\$20
Voluntary additional contribution of any amount (Thank you!)	\$____
<b>Total Dues and Contribution</b>	<b>\$____</b>

Please make out your check to BMCA and mail this form and the payment to:

BMCA Membership c/o Matt Smith 5911 3<sup>rd</sup> Street N., Arlington CA 22203

## Letter from the Outgoing President

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve as the BMCA President over the past two years. We live in a terrific community, and it extremely rewarding to see us work together for neighborhood improvements and to address areas of concern. I want to thank you all for being such good neighbors.

I especially want to recognize a group of very special people who give their time and talents to make such a difference for our neighborhood throughout each year:

- The officers: Vice President Sandra Spear, Secretary Tony Ermovick, and Treasurer Rob Pilot
- Our committee chairs: Lee Dioso (Communications), Larry Goldschmidt (Newsletter Delivery), Josh Handler (Beautification), Claudia Maloney (Hospitality), Chuck Norton (Safety), Matt Smith (Membership), and Paul Svercl (Civic Federation)
- Our other Board members: John Bloom, John Eckrote, Sandy Horowitz, and Molly Flynn Stevens.

I am grateful to our team of “runners” who deliver the newsletters to every home, and Mike Musto, who for many years has mown the grass at the Manchester and Arlington Boulevard entrance to our neighborhood.

Finally, I want to thank Nancy Fitzgerald, Pastor of the Church of the Brethren, and John Eckrote, Pastor of the Arlington Community Church, for their strong support of the BMCA that includes hosting many of our activities.

If you see any of these good folks, give them a word of thanks. Please come to our June 12 neighborhood meeting to participate in the Civic Association and to show your gratitude to all these neighbors who have volunteered their time to do so much on our behalf.

*Phil*

### Upcoming Arlington County Transportation Projects

Construction of safety improvements along Arlington Boulevard at N. Manchester St. will begin this summer. Plans include relocating the eastbound and westbound bus stops on Route 50 from before the intersection to after. On the north side of 50 (i.e., our neighborhood), improvements will include covering the 4-foot ditch that currently runs along the shoulder and adding the curve and gutter and an accessible sidewalk in the northwestern part of the intersection. Funding for this project comes from federal, state, and county sources.

Also beginning this summer is the planned widening of the sidewalk along N. Manchester St. and rehabilitation of the 5<sup>th</sup> Road N. intersection. A 5- to 6-foot wide sidewalk will be installed along the east side of N Manchester St between 5<sup>th</sup> Road and Wilson Blvd. The modified 5<sup>th</sup> Road intersection will reduce the length of the pedestrian crossings.

Another project will narrow the intersection of N. Montague St. at 5<sup>th</sup> Road and will provide safety improvements at the ending of Montague. Construction is expected to start fall of 2017.

Work to complete the missing sidewalk on 8th Road N. between Ashlawn Elementary School and Wilson Blvd. is scheduled for the summer of 2018.

For more information about these projects, please contact Board member Paul Svercl at 703-243-8693.

### New to the Neighborhood? Welcome!

The Boulevard Manor Civic Association (BMCA) is pleased to welcome all new residents to one of the friendliest communities in Arlington. BMCA promotes the common welfare, health, and safety of its residents and sponsors many social activities. The civic association would like to give a welcoming gift to new neighbors. If you moved into our neighborhood in 2017, please contact Claudia of the BMCA Hospitality Committee at [claudiamaloney@boulevardmanor.org](mailto:claudiamaloney@boulevardmanor.org).

**The BMCA Board thanks Phil Klingelhofer for having served (for the third time!) as President of the civic association. We deeply appreciate his service and his leadership, as well as his representation of our community to the county government and to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee.**